

Applicant: Valentino Campagnolo
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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows.

[0011] The supporting body 12 carries a pair of electrical switches, designated by 24 and 26, for controlling gear change. Preferably the said switches are set on opposite faces of a supporting plate 28 fixed to the supporting body 12. In the example of embodiment illustrated in the figures, the supporting plate 28 also carries a third switch 30 designed to control a cycle-computer (not illustrated). The first switch 24 is designed to operate an electrical motor for controlling [[e]] --a-- gear change (not illustrated) in one first direction corresponding, for example, to shifting of the chain towards higher gear ratios. Operation of the second switch 26 causes actuation of the motor in the opposite direction, corresponding, for example, to shifting of the chain towards lower gear ratios. The control device 10 can be used indifferently for controlling the front derailleur or the rear derailleur of a bicycle. Consequently, in the control device set on the right-hand side of the bicycle handlebars (usually designed to control the rear derailleur), the switch 24 controls gear change towards lower gear ratios (i.e., shifting of the chain onto gear wheels with a greater number of teeth), whilst the switch 26 controls gear change towards higher gear ratios (i.e., shifting of the chain onto gear wheels with a smaller number of teeth). Instead, in the control device set on the left-hand side of the handlebars (usually designed to control the front derailleur), the situation is reversed; i.e., the switch 24 controls gear change towards higher gear ratios (i.e., towards a gear wheel driven by the bottom bracket with a greater number of teeth), whilst the switch 26 controls gear change towards lower gear ratios (i.e., towards a gear wheel driven by the bottom bracket with a smaller number of teeth).